

# AFTER INDUSTRY: CITIES AND REGIONS IN TRANSFORMATION



**Conference: 14–15 May 2026, Prague**

Limited capacity – prior registration and confirmation by the organisers are required.

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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
YOUTH AND SPORTS



Filozofický ústav AV ČR  
Institute of Philosophy



IRS Leibniz-Institut für  
Raumbezogene Sozialforschung



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# AFTER INDUSTRY: CITIES AND REGIONS IN TRANSFORMATION

## 14 May 2026

Academic Conference Centre  
& Conference Room I. floor, Husova 4a, Prague 1 and  
Circular Hub, Kampus Hybernská, Hybernská 4, Prague 1

- 10:00–10:10 Opening Remarks by Organizers
- 10:10–10:55 [Keynote / Steven High: Towards the Global Study of Deindustrialization](#)
- 10:55–11:10 Coffee Break
- 11:10–12:40 **Panel 1 / From Industry to Transformation: Textile and Shoe Regions** / Chair: Karina Hoření  
Jan Zofka: The Eastern Bloc's Manchesters. A Geography of East Central European Textile Industries during the Cold War Era  
Lukáš Danko, Milan Balaban, Pavel Bednář: Varieties of Bata Shoe Company Towns Transformations in European Perspective  
Martin Jemelka, Vítězslav Sommer, Ondřej Ševeček: After the Shoe Empire: Deindustrialisation and Economic Transformation in the Zlín Region
- 12:40–14:00 Lunch break
- 14:00–14:45 [Keynote / Kerstin Brückweh: The 'Case' of East Germany. Reflections on the History and Historiography of Societies in Transformation](#)
- 14:45–16:15 **Panel 2 / People and Regions in Post-Industrial Transformation** / Chair: Viktor Pál  
Robert Knippschild, Agnieszka Pagels: Governance of Transformation in Coal Phase-Out regions: Aligning Infrastructural and Regional Economic Requirements with Societal Expectations and Sensitivities  
Lenka Krátká: The Impacts of Post-Socialist Deindustrialization on People's Lives in Two Slovak Municipalities  
Dawn R. Norris, Nicole Horáková Hirschlerová: The Good, the Bad, and the Green: Coal Industry Employees' Perceptions of Post-Socialist Industrial Change
- 16:15–16:30 Coffee Break
- 16:30–18:00 **Panel 3 / Memory and Post-Industrial Landscapes** / Chair: Dawn Norris  
Jogilė Ulinskaitė, Joanna Wawrzyniak: Mnemonic Emotion Narratives of (De)industrialization in Post-Socialist Central and Eastern Europe  
Karina Hoření: Sites of Memory in Liberec: Post-Industrial Heritage and Forgetting Socialism  
Scarlett Wilks: Between Loss and Revitalization: The Case of Deutsch-Ossig in the Lusatian Mining Region
- 16:30–18:00 **Panel 4 / Regions Reshaped by Industrial Change** / Chair: Christin Stühlen  
Conf Room I. Floor  
Arndt Macheledt: Decline and Transformation of the Potash Mining Regions in Thuringia after 1990  
István Szűts: The Transforming Industrial Structure and Social Changes of Central Transdanubian Region (Hungary) after 1989  
Jan Wachter: The Long Goodbye: Deindustrialization and the Persistent Role of the Brown Coal Industry in Northern Bohemia
- 19:00–21:00 [Evening Event of the Conference: Panel Discussion](#) / Chair: Adéla Gjuričová  
Campus Hybernská  
Frank Hadler, Steven High, Rebecca Madgin: After Industry – Rethinking Local Economies, Memory, and Industrial Identity

# AFTER INDUSTRY: CITIES AND REGIONS IN TRANSFORMATION

15 May 2026

Academic Conference Centre  
& Conference Room I. floor, Husova 4a, Prague 1

- 09:30–10:15 **Keynote / Rebecca Madgin: Why Historic Places Matter Emotionally**
- 10:15–11:45 **Panel 5 / Urban Spaces in Transformation** / Chair: Joanna Wawrzyniak  
Adéla Gjuričová: Deindustrialised Overnight: Non-Residential Premises in the Historic Centres of Czech Cities in the 1980s and 1990s  
Majda Ibraković, Christin Stühlen: Navigating Deindustrialization and Emerging Extractivism in Bosnia  
Polina Gundarina: Who Owns the Palace for Workers? Property, Power, and Post-Socialist Urban Transformation
- 11:45–12:00 Coffee Break
- 12:00–13:30 **Panel 6 / Industrial Decline and Change** / Chair: Lenka Krátká  
Andrea Pokludová: Ostrava: Transformation and Deindustrialization of the Steel Heart of the Republic through the Eyes of Technical Intelligence  
Dritan Rustja: From Socialist Industry to Forgotten Infrastructure: The Transformation of Shkoder's Industrial Zone in Post-Socialist Albania  
Dominik Stegmayer: East-Berlin Deindustrialization: Oberschöneweide
- 12:00–13:30 **Panel 7 / Trajectories of Industrial Transformation** / Chair: Pavel Mücke
- Conf Room I. Floor  
Magdalena Grešová: Enterprise Social Policy as a Perspective for Research into Deindustrialization in Late Socialism – the Example of Svit Gottwaldov  
Petr Popelka, Renata Popelková: Deindustrialization and Transformation of the Mining Landscape in the Czech Republic after 1989. A Case Study of the Ostrava-Karviná Mining District Landscape  
Viktor Pál, Vojtěch Bosák, Ondřej Slach, Jan Macháček, Petr Dvořák, Adam Červenka, Adam Pavlík, Lucie Orlíková: Justice and Sustainable Transformation in Europe's Battery Gigafactories: Socio-Environmental Challenges in the Post-Industrial Era
- 13:30–14:30: Lunch break / Buffet-style (Academic Conference Centre)
- 14:30–16:30 **Panel 8 / Heritage and Memory** / Chair: Anastasiia Bozhenko  
Jana Lena Jünger, Stefan Zeppenfeld: What Remains of the Boom? Teaching Project on Mining Site Reuse in the Ruhr Area  
Dan Ryšavý: Representation of Vulnerable Groups from the Perspective of Local Politicians in the Czech Republic, Poland and the New German States  
Pavel Mücke: Army, Cities and Urban Space – a Historical Sketch from Post-Socialist Transformation  
Monika Stará, Michal Horáček: Heritage or Burden? Preservation of Brown Coal Mining Remains in the Ústí Region
- 14:30–16:30 **Panel 9 / Transforming Urban Spaces** / Chair: Polina Gundarina
- Conf Room I. Floor  
Bettina Knoop: Urbanity in Shrinking Cities: A Conceptual Reflection  
Anastasiia Bozhenko: Transforming Common Spaces: The Challenges of Post-Soviet Mass Housing Estates in Ukraine (the Case of Kharkiv)  
Máté Tamáska: The Rehabilitation of Danube Ports  
Lukáš Kopp: Production Areas in Prague – Current Status, Recent Development, Possible Prospects
- 16:30–16:45 Coffee Break
- 16:45–17:30 **After Industry: Concluding Reflections** / Chair: Harald Engler  
Sandrine Kott, Vítězslav Sommer